

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 107821  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 INR-10  
INRE-00 SSO-00 /049 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:KMCCORMICK:DH  
APPROVED BY AF/S:DPETTERSON  
AF/S:LMACFARLANE  
F/EPS : FTHOMAS  
-----074604 272032Z /41

O 272005Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 107821

STADIS//////////  
FOR AMB NORLAND

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, EAID, LT

SUBJECT: LESOTHO PERIMETER ROAD PROJECT

REF: (A) STATE I03279; (B) MASERU 834

1. DUE TO PROBLEM OF INTERNAL COORDINATION, REF A  
WAS DESPATCHED BEFORE CLEARANCE BY STATE. DEPARTMENT  
CONCURS WITH AFR'S DECISION NOT TO SEEK ADDITIONAL FUNDS  
FOR PERIMETER ROAD PROJECT BEYOND \$25 MILLION.

WE ALSO AGREE THAT THIS OBLIGES US TO CHOOSE  
AMONG SCALED-BACK OPTIONS AS OUTLINED IN REF (A).  
HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE REFTEL DID NOT SUFFICIENTLY STRESS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 107821

POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN THIS CHOICE.

2. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY JUSTIFIED LESOTHO ROAD PROJECT  
-- ONE OF LARGEST SINGLE PROJECTS IN ADMINISTRATION'S  
AID PROPOSALS -- ON SECURITY SUPPORTING GROUNDS RELATED  
TO THE INTERRUPTION OF ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT TRANSPORTA-  
TION ROUTES. ROAD WAS DESIGNED (AT INITIAL GOL ESTIMATE

OF DOLS 11.2 MILLION) TO RECONNECT AREAS IN SOUTHERN LESOTHO EFFECTIVELY CUT OFF FROM REST OF COUNTRY BY GOL

UNWILLINGNESS TO RECOGNIZE AND TRANSIT THE TRANSKEI (THEIR TRADITIONAL TRANSPORTATION ROUTE). REGARDLESS OF DESIRABLE DEVELOPMENTAL SPINOFF BENEFITS OF ANY ROAD BUILT INTO MOUNTAINOUS SOUTHERN LESOTHO, WE COULD FACE SERIOUS JUSTIFICATION PROBLEMS IF WHEN THIS PROJECT IS COMPLETED WE HAVE FAILED TO RECONNECT THESE ISOLATED SOUTHERN SECTORS TO THE WEST. WE BELIEVE THIS SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND IN BALANCING OPTIONS OF IMPROVING ROAD AS FAR AS HALFWAY POINT AT MT. MOORISI AND COMPLETING SECTION FROM TRANSKEI BORDER BACK TO THIS POINT. YOU SHOULD ENSURE THAT OSARAC'S AND MASERU'S DISCUSSIONS REGARDING CUTBACK OPTIONS TAKE THESE CONSIDERATIONS (ON WHICH WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR VIEWS BY NON-STADIS CABLE WITHOUT THIS REFERENCE) INTO ACCOUNT. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HIGHWAYS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE107821  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** KMCORMICK:DH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780180-0955  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978049/aaaaagtw.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 28feedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 3279, 78 MASERU 834  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3065317  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LESOTHO PERIMETER ROAD PROJECT  
**TAGS:** PDEV, EAID, LT  
**To:** GABORONE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/28feedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014